

2022 UOAA Advocacy Goals and Priorities

UOAA is the leading organization advocating for the 725,000 to 1,000,000 people living with an ostomy or continent diversion in the United States as well as the approximate 100,000 new patients facing ostomy surgery annually. The following list, not all-inclusive, includes some of the advocacy work we will be doing in 2022:

Collaborative Advocacy Efforts

- With the Digestive Disease National Coalition and Access and Care Coalition continue support of the legislative priorities for the 117th Congress including the Safe Step Act
- With the WOCN Society continue outreach efforts to drive change in Community Care (i.e., admittance and retention of residents with an ostomy in assisted living facilities). These outreach plans could include creating an educational webinar designed for state associations to share with their members about ostomy care as well as the Society potentially having a volunteer network of WOC nurses to help educate facilities about ostomy care

Ostomy and Continent Diversion Patient Bill of Rights (PBOR)

- Work with CMS's Person and Family Engagement Group as they "put patients first" to recognize and highlight the best in practice standards of care in the PBOR to achieve positive patient health outcomes in ostomy care
- Continue outreach for utilization of the PBOR and animated series, and add more endorsers to PBOR and White Paper

Ostomy Awareness

- Celebrate national Ostomy Awareness Day in the United States on October 1, 2022.

Access to Care and Supplies

- Continue efforts for Phase 1 of National Quality Ostomy Care campaign which includes launching new webpages, producing a new resource on how to speak up and forming a roundtable of stakeholders
- Continue to advocate for proper coverage of ostomy supplies under Medicare/Medicaid

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